

**Beaufort Sea Oil and Gas Lease
(Sale 124)**

Public Hearings

Kaktovik

1990

1 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
2 MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE
3 ALASKA OCS REGION
4
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6

7 PUBLIC HEARING
8 OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
9

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11 ALASKA OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF
12 BEAUFORT SEA PLANNING AREA
13 OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE 124
14 DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DEIS)
15
16
17

18 Held at:

19 KAKTOVIK, ALASKA

20 Wednesday, April 18, 1990
21 3:00 o'clock p.m.
22 Community Center
23
24

25 Proceedings recorded by electronic sound recording
and transcript produced by:

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1 KAKTOVIK, ALASKA - PUBLIC HEARING PROCEEDINGS

2
3 (Tape No. 1)

4 (On record at approximately 3:00 o'clock p.m.)

5 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Welcome to the Draft
6 Environmental Impact Statement hearings for public sale -- or
7 for Oil and Gas Lease Sale 124 of the Beaufort Sea.

8 My name is Bob Brock. I'm the Regional Supervisor for
9 Leasing Environment Office of the Alaska OCS Office of the
10 Minerals Management Service in Alaska, and with me on the panel
11 is Irv Palmer, our Deputy Regional Director, and Barry
12 Boudreau, the Deputy Regional Supervisor for Field Operations,
13 and John Schindler, whom many of you might know -- he was in
14 Barrow for a number of years -- is our Chief of our
15 Environmental Assessment Division.

16 I've got a few opening remarks here, that I hate to
17 take your time, but there are some things that I would like you
18 to know before we turn it over and ask for your comments.

19 This is the second of four public hearings. We had --
20 we held our first one last night in Barrow, and -- oh, by the
21 way Mabel here will be translating this when I complete, and
22 then she'll be translating for anybody who wishes to speak in
23 Inupiat and -- for the record. So we do have a translator here.

24 As I said, this is our second of four hearings. We
25 had one last night in Barrow, had a good turnout. Tomorrow we

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1 go to Nuiqsut, and Friday we'll be back in Anchorage, Friday
2 afternoon, for a hearing in Anchorage.

3 The purpose of this hearing is to receive the views,
4 comments, and suggestions of interested individuals and
5 representatives of local government and organizations on the
6 Draft Environmental Impact Statement for proposed Lease Sale
7 No. 124.

8 Before we start the hearing, I'd like to give you a
9 little bit of background about the process we follow and the
10 decision that may be made. Federal oil and gas leasing in the
11 Beaufort Sea began with sale called Beaufort Sea, BF, in
12 December 1979. Following, in 1982, we had Sale 71; in 1984, we
13 had Sale 87; and in Sale -- in 1988, we had Sale eighty --
14 No. 97. As a result of those four lease sales, we have
15 leased -- the federal government has leased approximately three
16 million acres of the offshore. This represents about 6 percent
17 of the total planning area.

18 There have been 21 wells drilled on these three
19 million acres, and of those, eight of the wells have been
20 classified as producible. At the present time, no production
21 has taken place, and no production plans have been filed with
22 the MMS.

23 In addition to that, we have conducted over 200
24 studies that are applicable to this area, both socio-economic
25 and environmental type studies. The Draft EIS covers

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1 approximately 22 million acres, and this is the -- just about
2 the same area that was included in the Sale 97 environmental
3 impact statement area, just almost identical. It's -- this ha
4 got a few more blocks in it, just along the outer edge.

5 The major goal of this sale, in accordance with the
6 Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, is to find out precisely
7 where our domestic energy supplies are, how much they will cost
8 to produce, and allow them to produce if it is possible to do
9 so in an environmentally safe manner.

10 Oil discoveries here will reduce our reliance on
11 uncertain foreign supplies as well as reduce the jobs and
12 dollars exported to other countries. Benefits accrue directly
13 to local individuals, state and local governments. This
14 program generates hundreds of millions of dollars in revenues
15 each year, and if discoveries are made, more millions are
16 generated through royalties on production and corporate taxes.
17 These monies go directly to the Federal Treasury and are
18 reappropriated by Congress for individual type programs that
19 Congress appropriates money for. The Land and Water
20 Conservation Fund alone, which spent about \$26 million in the
21 state of Alaska last year, receives 85 percent of its money
22 directly from the offshore oil and gas revenues.

23 This draft environmental impact statement formally
24 pulls together about two years of preparation, and you have
25 been a part of this prepara- -- or that past process, and we

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1 are once again asking you to comment on our Draft Environmental
2 Impact Statement. MMS has in place a host of regulations and
3 operating rules that are designed to make offshore operations
4 safe and clean, and I would just like to touch upon a few of
5 those for you today.

6 First, before any exploration activities can begin,
7 lessees have to prepare exploration plans. These plans are
8 reviewed by a wide spectrum of people before they're approved.
9 But even our approval is not the final word; they must meet the
10 coastal zone consistency certification. National pollution
11 discharge elimination system permits are required from the
12 Environmental Protective Agency.

13 Next, an actual drilling permit is required. Once
14 drilling is underway, Minerals Management Service inspectors
15 will be on that rig or nearby at all times, 24 hours a day,
16 7 days a week. Then if discoveries are made, the planning and
17 approval process of production begins all over again, including
18 the environmental analysis. The federal government has
19 numerous requirements to ensure drilling and well safety. For
20 an example, we require oil spill control and clean-up equipment
21 to be in place and crews to be trained on its use. We require
22 the use of best available and safest technology, third-party
23 verification of drilling platforms, ice monitoring programs for
24 winter operation, detailed site-specific surveys for any
25 possible geo-hazards.

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1 To further reduce the potential risks, many additional
2 mitigating measures can be, and in the past have been, added
3 through the Environmental Impact Statement process. For an
4 example, some of the past -- couple of the past requirements
5 that we implemented on the leases were to establish a training
6 program which must be attended at least once a year by all
7 on-site workers. One of the purposes of this program was to
8 educate all oil and gas workers about subsistence practices and
9 their importance. Another one was to establish a biological
10 task force to advise MMS on various biological requirements.

11 The Environmental Impact Statement is a very important
12 element in the decision process. The law requires considerable
13 consultation with the Governor, balancing national needs with
14 the well-being of local citizens. This consultation process
15 for this sale has been underway since early 1988 with a call
16 for information, and it will be continued up through the final
17 decision, which will be made sometime in early 1991 whether to
18 proceed with the sale or not.

19 I will call today's speakers in the order that they've
20 registered. If you wish to register but have not, please
21 register with Dick Roberts sitting over in the first row there,
22 over in the corner. When you do testify, please state your
23 name, address, occupation, and organization or agency that you
24 represent, if you represent an agency or organization. Please
25 try to keep your comments to about 10 minutes. If you have

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1 prepared testimony, please give the recorder here a copy of
2 that testimony. If you wish to submit additional information
3 with that testimony, please give that to him also.

4 An official Court Reporter will make a verbatim
5 transcript of this hearing. Everything that is spoken while
6 the hearing is in session will be recorded. To ensure a
7 complete and accurate record, it is important that only one
8 person speak at a time, and I would like to ask everybody else
9 to remain as quiet as possible while the hearing is in
10 process. Copies of this transcript are available through
11 Executary. Mr. Richard Carl here is the representative of that
12 organization, and you can arrange with him for copies of the
13 transcript if you are interested in obtaining that. Minerals
14 Management Service does not provide copies of the transcript,
15 so if you -- that'd be a matter between you and the Court
16 Reporter if you want to arrange for a copy of the transcript.

17 This is not an adversary proceeding -- oh. By the
18 way, his telephone number is 272-4084 in Anchorage, or you can
19 talk to him today after the hearing is over.

20 This is not an adversary proceeding. No one will be
21 placed under oath; however, presentations should be relevant
22 and supported by pertinent data because the purpose of this
23 hearing is to improve the quality of the Draft Environmental
24 Impact Statement. Speakers will not be questioned unless a
25 member of the panel wishes to clarify something or obtain

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1 additional information. We are interested in understanding the
2 views that you have on this environmental impact statement.

3 To help with this, we have asked -- we have Mabel
4 here, who will be a translator and will translate to the
5 Inupiat language.

6 The comment period for this EIS closes May 8th, 1990.
7 Until that time, we will accept all written comments or oral
8 comments from anyone wishing -- or from anyone wishing to
9 supplement their oral comments and from anyone who is unable to
10 attend today's hearing. These written comments should be
11 addressed to:

12 The Regional Director
13 Minerals Management Service
14 949 East 36th Avenue, Room 610
15 Anchorage, AK 99508

16 Remember, your com- -- your written comments have to be
17 received by May 8th, 1990, to ensure that they get into the
18 final Environmental Impact Statement. If they come in after
19 that date, we will still use them, but they won't become part
20 of the official, final Environmental Impact Statement, but we
21 would still use them for the next step, which is the proposed
22 leasing notice, if it goes that far.

23 I will now let Mabel translate that.

24 0629

25 (The Hearing Officer's opening statement

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1 translated into Inupiat by the interpreter
2 at this time)

3 1700

4 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Thank you. We have two people
5 registered at the present time.

6 (Whispered conversation)

7 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Well, yeah, there might be
8 more over there. They brought over two names; the first one
9 will be George Tagerook. Tagerook, is that pronounced
10 correctly?

11 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF GEORGE TAGEROOK

12 Welcome. My name is George Tagerook. I'm former
13 Mayor of Kaktovik, a City Council member. My address is Post
14 Office Box 9, Kaktovik, Alaska. I'm over 10-year resident
15 here, originally from Barrow, and I oppose any offshore
16 drilling, whether it be a floating structure or an island, due
17 to the fact it could endanger our culture, our -- I hunt out
18 there in the sea. I hunt whales, I hunt seals, fish, and
19 that -- that's going to jeopardize my -- my living environment,
20 not only for myself but for my children and their children.

21 And what -- whatever the outcomes of the oil spill
22 will be, bound to be all disastrous, and there's no way -- how
23 you going to clean up a oil spill during ice floes, currents,
24 and that stuff is pretty impossible. I don't know if you guys
25 ever done that before, but, you know, I haven't witnessed it

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1 yet. So -- and really, I dream of the Arctic Ocean, you know,
2 like the way it is right now; I don't want to see any -- any
3 oil rigs out there, I don't want -- I don't want to see no
4 islands, no causeways, no tankers, no nothing, just -- I just
5 want to see it be left alone, and I oppose any offshore
6 drilling and due to the fact that I'm a hunter of the ice, and
7 that -- that's going to really affect my -- my way of life if
8 there is ever a disastrous oil spill like the Valdez oil spill
9 they had.

10 So I don't know what the outcomes will be, but I
11 haven't really -- I haven't read your proposal on those OCS
12 124. I didn't have time to do it due to my job and hunting on
13 weekends. And like you said, May 8th will be a -- like a magic
14 date for me, give me enough time to further comment on this
15 issue. Thank you.

16 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Thank you. Fenton Rexford.

17 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF FENTON REXFORD

18 Good afternoon. My name is Fenton Rexford. I live in
19 Barter Island. My address is Post Office Box 137, and I'm
20 presently an employee of the North Slope Borough, but I'm going
21 to be representing myself.

22 I oppose Lease Sale 124. After briefly reading the
23 draft EIS, I noted, or I noticed, that there is not enough
24 information on subsistence and/or cultural -- our culture
25 protection if there was to be oil spilled or any -- any adverse

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1 impact on -- on there. I noticed on all the alternatives that
2 there is only a paragraph or less than a page addressing the
3 socio-economic and also cultural effects on -- on any of the
4 alternatives, whether it's no lease sale or deferred --
5 deferrals like around Barter Island.

6 I just noticed that there is not much information on
7 the subsistence, resource, archeological protection, and just,
8 that's all I have on that. I just oppose Lease Sale 24 (sic)
9 on account that it does not address in detail the protection of
10 our subsistence, cultural, and -- and also the animals if there
11 were to be an oil spill. That's all I have. Thank you.

12 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Thank you.

13 MR. SCHINDLER: Thank you, Fenton.

14 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Dick, is there anybody else
15 registered there?

16 (Inaudible response)

17 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: That's the only two that
18 registered. Do we have anybody else that would like to make a
19 statement or -- of any kind?

20 THE INTERPRETER: (Translating the Hearing Officer's
21 comment and question into Inupiat.)

22 (Pause)

23 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: Not (indiscernible) registered,
24 writing, is that?

25 MR. SCHINDLER: That's all right. Bob will get your

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1 name.

2 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Yeah. We'll get your name
3 when you -- you might have to spell it for us.

4 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF ISAAC AHKOOTCHIK

5 My name is Isaac Ahkootchik, and I'm raised in
6 Kaktovik since 68 years. I live up here; I still here. I like
7 to speak in my language because we have an interpreter, because
8 it's -- I didn't -- I never been in school, but my
9 (indiscernible).

10 (Comment by the Interpreter)

11 (Mr. Ahkootchik's testimony presented in Inupiat,
12 translated into English by the Interpreter)

13 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

14 THE INTERPRETER: I would like to begin my comments by
15 stating that I have lived in Kaktovik all these years, 68, and
16 I have lived here, and I was raised here before any kind of
17 development ever started here in the Kaktovik area.

18 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

19 THE INTERPRETER: So for our livelihood, we have
20 depended on the game. Be it on the land or on the sea, we have
21 always depended on the animals of the sea and of the land.
22 Like you go to work for a living, that was our livelihood, by
23 collecting all the game that we can get.

24 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

25 THE INTERPRETER: So after the DEW Line started

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1 operating in these -- in this part of the country, that's when
2 I first started working to supplement all this fish and game,
3 living off the land by catching all the fish and game to
4 supplement my family.

5 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

6 THE INTERPRETER: So it -- I really enjoyed working,
7 but it has its benefits. When you work for a -- for a company,
8 it has its benefits. You work for some years and then -- till
9 you're -- till you're ready for retirement, and that is -- that
10 one has its own benefits by itself. But being an Inupiat all
11 these -- all these benefits that come in with the employment
12 and with retirement, it does have its limits because, being an
13 Inupiat, what you really -- what you really crave for sometimes
14 is not -- is not what money can buy, though it does have its
15 own benefits.

16 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

17 THE INTERPRETER: Like he said before, he's been
18 living off the land, like you have heard so many times before,
19 off the bowhead whale. That has been -- that has always been
20 the big -- big game, the big-time hunt for all the Inupiat.
21 From what I understand by listening to the last night's
22 meeting, I understand that there may not be a time of questions
23 really, but I do have some questions because I have this
24 question on my mind of, There is no demonstration or the proper
25 clean-up of an oil spill where there's ice, where ice is

1 involved. And so I have a lot of questions about that, and I
2 would really like to know how that could -- how the clean-up
3 could be taken care of to pick up all this oil that's under the
4 ice or in the water should it occur.

5 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

6 THE INTERPRETER: As we were growing up, there was a
7 lot of game plentiful, namely the caribou. But when
8 development started in the years that he mentioned, they have
9 been declining. Since this development of the oil companies
10 started, there has been a very noticeable decline on the
11 caribou. You have to travel way up, go up all the way to the
12 mountains to catch any caribou nowadays.

13 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

14 THE INTERPRETER: So from experience, we are now using
15 this oil to heat our homes and for the fuel in the light plant
16 that, like, light up our homes. That is a benefit in itself,
17 but living off the land like we have always done, it would
18 endanger our livelihood because -- because for reasons that
19 only an Inupiat can understand. It's not out of spite that we
20 say this, but we -- we really would like to protect our
21 environment, our culture, for those purposes.

22 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

23 THE INTERPRETER: So from experience, you have heard
24 more than once about the incident that happened down at Valdez,
25 the oil spill that occurred down there, and I feel for those

1 people that are -- that are permanently living down there. I
2 really feel for them. You tell us that you're taking all kinds
3 of precautions that anything like that would not happen, but if
4 for some reason a spill occurs, how and what would I feel? How
5 would my feelings be, my thoughts be, when this thing that was
6 told us would never happen, when it finally happens, how would
7 I feel about it?

8 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

9 THE INTERPRETER: And therefore, since we live off the
10 land and off the sea, if this animal that I caught from the sea
11 that has been contaminated by the oil spill, and if for some
12 reason, if that contaminated animal that had been in the oil
13 spill and I should happen to catch it and I ate it, and then
14 who would take care of all my problems, my physical problems,
15 should they occur, from that sea mammal that had been in the
16 oil spill?

17 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

18 THE INTERPRETER: There are a number of Inupiat people
19 that don't have all this insurance to back them up should they
20 have a physical problem.

21 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

22 THE INTERPRETER: We are very thankful that the
23 government has been able to help us in what way they can.

24 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

25 THE INTERPRETER: But there have been times when it --

1 we would rather that it was a 100-percent paid bill when only
2 just a small amount of it has been paid by the government.

3 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

4 THE INTERPRETER: So with that point in view, should
5 something like a spill occur, what would happen to the Native
6 people who have been living in these communities for so long?

7 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

8 THE INTERPRETER: So with that in mind, we as
9 Americans, we should -- we should keep in consideration what
10 one feels for the other. Even if we're white men, white
11 people, or the Inupiat people, we're still American citizens.

12 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

13 THE INTERPRETER: So I don't have anything else to add
14 to my comments, but I am opposed to this Sale 124 in the
15 Beaufort Sea. I am opposing this Sale 124 in the Beaufort Sea
16 like my fellow Inupiat did, I heard over KBRW when they had
17 their meeting last night.

18 MR. AHKOOTCHIK: (In Inupiat)

19 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you for coming.

20 MR. SCHINDLER: Thank you.....

21 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Thank you, sir.

22 MR. SCHINDLER:Isaac.

23 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Would anybody else like to
24 testify?

25 (Pause - Whispered conversations)

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1 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

2 THE INTERPRETER: My name is Jonas Ningeok.

3 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: What was the last name, sir?

4 THE INTERPRETER: Ningeok.

5 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Can you spell that?

6 THE INTERPRETER: N-i-n-g-e-o-k.

7 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF JONAS NINGEOK

8 (Mr. Ningeok's testimony presented in Inupiat,
9 translated into English by the Interpreter)

10 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

11 THE INTERPRETER: I have comments to make, though it
12 won't be long. I have lived here in Kaktovik all the days of
13 my life.

14 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

15 THE INTERPRETER: All over, all -- all along the sea
16 coast.

17 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

18 THE INTERPRETER: So as far back as I can remember, I
19 have seen, and from experience, I can tell you exactly what the
20 ocean ice and the ocean itself can do, even without the ice.

21 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

22 THE INTERPRETER: Even if there's no wind, the ocean
23 currents can be so swift that no matter how thick the ice is,
24 even without any wind, it really can do something because the
25 current, ocean currents, are so swift in this part of the

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1 country.

2 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

3 THE INTERPRETER: And from experience, I can say that
4 when the pressure ridge is forming, even when there's no wind
5 to help it along, the ocean currents can be such that they can
6 pile up this ice that no matter how quick or how -- if you --
7 in your words, if you can say that evacuation must be done in a
8 moment's time, even if you're that swift, there can be nothing
9 you can do because, from experience, I can say something can
10 happen once the oil rig has reached all this oil down on the
11 ocean floor, and then this pressure ridge starts forming.
12 There can -- there -- there have been times when you can do
13 nothing no matter how swift you think you are.

14 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

15 THE INTERPRETER: And from experience, I know no
16 matter how beautiful the day may look, in a moment's time we
17 can have a snow storm yet that you can't even see. As he -- as
18 he was pointing, any distance as close as to the end of the
19 table, you can't even see that much distance because of the
20 sudden snow -- snow storm be -- they don't happen -- it doesn't
21 happen every year, but when it does happen, there's no telling,
22 because it can come upon you even on a beautiful day.

23 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

24 THE INTERPRETER: As we were growing up, there have
25 been times when my parents, especially my father, even on

1 beautiful days what -- what -- which we thought were real
2 beautiful days, he'd look up at the clouds, the sky, and tell
3 us to get ready to get everything, all the wood, all the
4 firewood, to put -- to put it inside the entranceway, not only
5 the firewood but that we should put some ice inside the
6 entranceway because there were no vehicles around to help us.
7 We did not have anything available like a vehicle to get
8 everything ready, but we did have a dog team, and that is what
9 we always used to haul in the wood and the ice.

10 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

11 THE INTERPRETER: And even on such beautiful days like
12 that, we'd do what father told us to do. We'd get everything
13 ready, and without any notice at all, it would seem like that
14 all this storm would come upon us like father had warned us
15 about.

16 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

17 THE INTERPRETER: There was an occasion not too long
18 ago when the plane landed, we were all working on it to get it
19 ready. Just before we got done, a sudden snow storm arrived,
20 and there was nothing any -- anyone else -- there was nothing
21 anyone could do at the time. But at that moment, this guy that
22 was driving a vehicle was lost; he got caught in the snow
23 storm, and he got lost, and so we formed a search party and
24 found him. There was -- there were many guys that were looking
25 for this lost one.

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1 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

2 THE INTERPRETER: At that moment, the plane did not
3 leave, nor did we get done unloading the plane, and all the
4 supplies for the DEW Line were frozen out there because of this
5 sudden snow storm which no one was able to do anything at all.

6 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

7 THE INTERPRETER: And so therefore, from this
8 experience, we can't say what the weather will be like; we
9 cannot say that. And so therefore, what we do know and have
10 experienced as Inupiat, we should let you white people know
11 about it because we may need -- who knows? We may need each
12 other's help one way or the other.

13 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

14 THE INTERPRETER: I don't have too much to say, but I
15 would like for you to know and to hear what we already know
16 from experience, that sudden snow storms can come upon you
17 without any notice, or the pressure ridge, we never know what a
18 pressure ridge can do until we're actually in it. No matter
19 how beautiful a day, there is no -- these sudden storms come
20 upon us, and we never know, and we -- I don't have too much to
21 say, but I would like for you to hear and know about what I
22 have learned from experience.

23 MR. NINGEOK: (In Inupiat)

24 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you all for coming here.....

25 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Thank you.

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1 MR. SCHINDLER: Thank you, Jonas.

2 THE INTERPRETER:to this hearing.

3 (Whispered conversation)

4 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: We'll take a 10-minute break
5 here, and if anybody else then decides that they would like to
6 testify, we'll go back on record. If you have any questions
7 during the break or anything, well, feel free to ask them.
8 We'll -- but let's take 10 minutes and.....

9 (Off record)

10 (On record)

11 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Let's reconvene and.....

12 (Simultaneous speech and whispered conversation)

13 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Oh. Mr. Alfred Lynn.

14 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF ALFRED LYNN

15 Good afternoon. My name is Alfred Lynn, Jr., and I'm
16 a resident of Kaktovik, and I would like to comment on Lease
17 Sale 124. I'm opposed to this lease sale because I feel that
18 the oil companies, you know, they don't have -- they don't have
19 enough technology to handle any blow-outs during exploration of
20 oil in the Beaufort Sea. Would like to say that -- you know,
21 let me put this theoretical scenario before you is, say some
22 drilling rig is drilling for oil in the Beaufort Sea and at the
23 very point where this exploration discovers oil there is a --
24 an earthquake, and, you know, they have oil blow-out. And it's
25 just starting winter and they're drilling on the bottom of the

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1 ocean. Now, how is the oil company going to be able to handle
2 the blow-out? You know, suppose that oil that they've just --
3 just discovered just now is all going out under the sea, and
4 just the impact of this thing is that it will impact the very
5 culture that I live in because I have -- because the very food
6 that -- that I hunt for each spring would be hurt.

7 Now, the scene would be that it's summertime, and when
8 all this oil that's coming out, now, how is the oil companies
9 going to clean this out? You know, and this is why I'm very
10 opposed to these lease sales. That's all I have.....

11 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Thank you, sir.

12 MR. LYNN:to comment on.

13 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: That's all we have signed up.
14 Is there anybody else that would like to testify before I close
15 the hearing?

16 (Pause)

17 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Hearing none, it's now 4:35.
18 We started at a little after.....

19 MS. THOMPSON: I have -- I'll make a testimony.

20 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Okay. Wasn't trying to hurry
21 you. I just -- no, you can just come over and.....

22 MR. SCHINDLER: Just give us your name, that's fine.

23 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: If you'll just give us your
24 name, well, that -- you don't have to write it down anywhere.

25 / / /

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PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF JANE THOMPSON

1
2 My name is Jane Thompson. I was born and raised here
3 in Kaktovik. And didn't have time to study your Environmental
4 Impact Statement, which is -- I believe is a poor part, is a
5 very bad part, in your part in delaying -- or sending these
6 Environmental Impact Statement to us to study them. They are
7 very thick books, and I don't know when they were published,
8 but in your part, you guys always sending those Environmental
9 Impact Statements at the last minute before your public
10 hearings. And that's a pretty large area where the federal
11 government wants to have a lease sale, right in the area where
12 we do lots of our subsistence hunting.

13 All of you know -- you have your scientists that
14 studied that area; it's a feeding grounds for the migrating
15 whales when they're returning. We very much oppose this lease
16 sale. I know not very many people going to come here to
17 testify 'cause they're all working, and a bad time too. Should
18 be done in the evening when everybody still working and most of
19 the hunters are. Right now you're having the hearings while
20 all of our hunters are working. And I don't know when do you
21 plan to end this public hearing, at what time this evening?

22 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: We'll close it this afternoon
23 whenever we get through here, although the written comments
24 will -- can be received any time up through May the 8th. So
25 there will be plenty of time for people to get in comments if

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1 they want to get them in.

2 MS. THOMPSON: What about the Inupiat-speaking people?

3 (Pause)

4 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: You mean how about their
5 written comments?

6 MS. THOMPSON: Yeah.

7 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: I -- there's nobody that could
8 write those in -- down and send them in for us?

9 MS. THOMPSON: I don't know how you proceed with that.

10 MR. BOUDREAU: Oh, we would find someone to translate
11 it, but.....

12 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Yeah.

13 MR. BOUDREAU:is it.....

14 MS. THOMPSON: Will it be through tape recording and
15 then transcribed or.....

16 MR. BOUDREAU: We probably could do that.....

17 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: We.....

18 MS. THOMPSON: So that.....

19 MR. BOUDREAU:if we had.....

20 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: We could do either one --
21 either way.

22 MS. THOMPSON:you can hear from more people?

23 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Right.

24 MR. BOUDREAU: If we had to, we could do that, sure.

25 MS. THOMPSON: And it would be all recorded?

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1 MR. BOUDREAU: Well, it would be transcribed. You
2 would do the recording.
3 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Yeah, if you could.....
4 MS. THOMPSON: I know, but.....
5 HEARING OFFICER BROCK:if somebody would.....
6 MS. THOMPSON:it will be in the records as
7 the.....
8 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: If somebody would.....
9 MS. THOMPSON:testimony.
10 HEARING OFFICER BROCK:record it and send it to
11 us, then we could transcribe it and -- before May 8th, and then
12 we could transcribe it and get it in the record, yes. Is that
13 the question? I'm not sure I answered the right question.
14 MS. THOMPSON: Well, my -- well, I just wanted to know.
15 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Yeah, we'll do any way we can
16 to get it in, and if they send it to us on a tape, well, we'll
17 get it transcribed and get it into the record, yes.
18 MS. THOMPSON: Well, I just want to say that I'm very
19 much opposed to any federal lease sales around this area, and
20 I'm sure that lots of people do feel the same way too. I
21 wasn't prepared to give testimony, so I wish I was more
22 prepared; I'm not. That's how I feel. Thanks.
23 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Thank you.
24 MR. SCHINDLER: Thank you, Jane.
25 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Sir?

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PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF NOLAN SOLOMAN

1 My name is Nolan Soloman. I live here at Kaktovik
2 since 1968, been here -- was here before in 1961 and '62. And
3 I understand Lease Sale 124 we're talking about is in the
4 Barrow area right now. Is that right?

5 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Let me show you on the map
6 just so that you'll know. The proposal, at the present time,
7 goes just about 60 miles on the west side of Barrow to the
8 Canadian line, and it goes offshore about 60 to 70 miles, a
9 little further than that up here, but on an average, it's
10 about -- and it's not the first three miles 'cause that's State
11 land, but starting three miles out and further. And so
12 Kaktovik sits right here, and these shaded blocks are the --
13 presently they're leased over the past sales, and the white
14 blocks are the ones that are unleased, and that's what's in the
15 proposal, between here and the shoreline.

16 MR. SOLOMAN: Okay. The one that I'm talking about is
17 one, that black-shaded one above Point Barrow.

18 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: The highlighed area.

19 MR. SOLOMAN: Right on your hand.

20 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: This one?

21 MR. SOLOMAN: Yeah.

22 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: What about it?

23 MR. SOLOMAN: Is that the one we're talking about
24 right now?

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1 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: No, we're talking about the
2 whole area. The -- these two shaded areas are -- in the
3 Environmental Impact Statement, they're identified as potential
4 deferral areas, or areas that we left out of the sale, and
5 they're analyzed, or they're written about, as, What would this
6 lease sale look like if those two areas were left out?

7 MR. SOLOMAN: Okay. Okay. I got it. Fine.

8 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: So.....

9 MR. SOLOMAN: Okay. On this Lease Sale 124, I -- I
10 can recall when we had -- when they had a meeting here the
11 first time, which probably was in '88. Probably I wasn't here,
12 or somewhere, but I think the deferral we've been talking about
13 is -- on our water site in Kaktovik area all the way to the
14 demarcation, we always have a -- that area seems to be the one
15 we been trying to take care of from -- 'cause migration of
16 bowhead whales in the falltime. And also, water -- water
17 conditions almost never right, and we have -- just like -- like
18 yesterday, I heard a little bit of a -- probably the tail end
19 of a -- the one at Barrow and also the one today here. They
20 were talking about ice condition, how strong the current is,
21 stuff like that, and by experience, I have whaled at Barrow
22 before, before I came here, and I know how the conditions are
23 there. The current is pretty -- pretty hard.

24 And by experience, I have been one of the -- one of
25 the whalers that were stranded out in the -- on the ice when

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1 there were about, I don't know, maybe more than ten crews with
2 their boats got stranded on the -- on the other -- on the ice
3 where we couldn't go anywhere except the -- the fast ice
4 crushed us from -- we were way, way out, and we lost all our
5 boats. And I think everybody knows, anybody that's sitting
6 here, probably heard about it. And the ice is pretty -- pretty
7 dangerous; it overrides anything.

8 And if you have a floating structure, which I've seen
9 in the -- over at Beaufort Sea, at Canada area, I have -- I
10 have been to few of them just for -- just for the -- just to
11 look at them, and I know how the -- how they put their anchors
12 to this ship so it will never move. And it -- it's a -- they
13 put great big anchors, probably more than six, I don't know.
14 Probably if there's big current, they'll put more anchors. And
15 ice is pretty strong. I don't think any anchor of anything
16 that contains a great big cable would -- would stand any -- any
17 ice pressure with a current anywhere, and that's what I'm
18 afeared (sic) of. I've seen this inside the Beaufort Sea right
19 by a demarcation, where the oil company put their ships out and
20 drilled with these -- with the big anchors, and I don't think
21 it would stand out there.

22 So I -- with this in mind, I -- I don't think it'll
23 stand up here either, and it's pretty -- it's pretty risky,
24 even for the -- for the life of the people. 'Cause we seen
25 people here doing digging out there in the -- right down side

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1 of us, and just from the water, they had to be evacuated here
2 at one time; they leave their ship out there, kind of -- kind
3 of wind. And what would happen way out there? I don't
4 think -- it'd be too risky for everybody.

5 And I would like to -- before closing on May 8th, I
6 would like to -- I'm going to make my written comments, and I
7 will write some more of my -- my experience 'cause I am a
8 captain, whaling captain here, and I know -- I know I have been
9 hunting with these people that live here, and we know how the
10 environment here. And I know a little bit of Point Barrow
11 environment, out in the ice, what the ice can do.

12 Thank you.

13 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Thank you.

14 MR. SCHINDLER: Thank you.

15 (Pause - Whispered conversation)

16 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Anybody else?

17 (No response)

18 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Okay. It's now 4:45, and we
19 will close the hearing. Thank you all for coming. Was that
20 Norman or Morgan?

21 (Off record at 4:45 o'clock p.m.)

22 (On record at approximately 5:45 o'clock p.m.)

23 HEARING OFFICER BROCK:and Joe, you're the first
24 one that signed up there, so could we.....

25 MR. SOPLU: Okay.

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1 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Right there at that chair
2 probably. Why don't you sit right there close to the
3 microphone? That way we can be sure and get it in the record.

4 MR. SOPLU: Okay. Maybe I'll -- if I could have
5 Herman sit with me. If I could have you sit with me through my
6 testifying.

7 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Sure. Why don't you sit over
8 there at that other chair right there, Herman?

9 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF JOE SOPLU

10 I want to -- I want to sit there and -- through my
11 employers, I want to represent the City Council for this
12 village on this offshore thing you guys have here. And
13 maybe -- am I -- am I.....

14 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: You're on.

15 MR. SCHINDLER: You're on.

16 MR. SOPLU:actually on? Okay. I'd like to
17 address the ties I have with Arco through ASRC as far as being
18 the team commander for the oil spill response contingency
19 plan. And I know that in the past, working with them through
20 training, extensive training, and the training be -- being
21 minimal, I'd like to let Herman, as the City Mayor, know that
22 we need to open up the communications with our representatives,
23 the people that represent me through the oil companies, which
24 is ASRC.

25 And the problems we're having right now is no

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1 support. And I know that the oil company, Arco, has a lot of
2 support as far as training, and supposedly, we were supposed to
3 have a crew, oil spill response team of eight individuals, and
4 I am the only one left as the team commander. And I think it's
5 about time that I let Herman know that -- how important it is
6 as far as having an oil spill response team out here to the
7 community. Without the support from our representatives, ASRC,
8 it is very hard for me to accept more of the training
9 opportunities and the direct implementation of oil spill
10 response, clean-up, training.

11 I just thought I'd let you guys know that. There
12 is -- although you guys might see it in the paper, there is
13 very little -- I can't say -- a force of eight individuals,
14 I -- like I said, I'm the only one left out of that whole crew
15 of eight representing this community of Kaktovik. I just
16 thought I -- maybe I'd like to address it to you people now to
17 see if we could try to improve our communications and just see
18 how far you guys want to go with working together and -- with
19 Arco and the community of Kaktovik, with Herman Aishana as the
20 City Mayor, and corporation and the people that represent me
21 through this oil spill response team.

22 Maybe we could try to improve our communication ties
23 to see just how we can effectively combine a force of local
24 residents so that we apply the techniques that we have through
25 training to what you guys are offering the community of

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1 Kaktovik as far as offshore oil and gas leasing is concerned.

2 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Can I ask a question here?

3 I'm not sure who you want to improve communications with. Is
4 this a -- to improve it with the oil company, to improve it
5 with the government, or improve it here with -- in the local
6 village. I wasn't sure.....

7 MR. SOPLU: Okay. I'd like to see if we could improve
8 it with -- if -- if I'm getting more sources from oil company,
9 I'd like to see a lot of it directed more towards the people
10 that represent me as the local resident is concerned through
11 the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation.

12 MR. PALMER: Joe.....

13 MR. SOPLU: The people that represent me. I know that
14 I have a lot of ties with Bob Griffith there with Arco, and
15 that's -- that's the only tie we have as far as getting some
16 programs going, and training opportunities, set up to where
17 there is no support from the community. People aren't --
18 people aren't interested, and I'm not sure why. Maybe it has a
19 lot to do with no support from our representatives, which is
20 ASRC.

21 MR. PALMER: Last night when we were in Barrow, Joe,
22 we had a person testify that there was a lot of interest in
23 having the same type of training that you had from Arco. We
24 had a lot of interest to have this type of training in every
25 single coastal village. And so the people in Barrow support

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1 that; they said so. If you listened on the radio last night,
2 they said that there was interest and they support having
3 training such as you've been involved in.

4 So at least you've got some support for having a cadre
5 of people trained in the local areas ready and willing to
6 respond 'cause they, the local people, know the area better
7 than anybody else.

8 MR. SOPLU: Yeah. I understand that. I think that as
9 far as ASRC's concerned, being our representatives, you know, I
10 think that they need to be out here more. And the people that
11 I work for, which is the North Slope Borough, I -- I'd like to
12 see some representatives step forward and say that they're
13 giving us support. I'm seeing a lot of times where we thought
14 that they would step forward and represent us when we're going
15 through training and showing some agencies that we have the
16 capabilities of responding and cleaning up oil spills, but
17 they're not there. They're not there for us.

18 We're out there breaking our backs trying to do a
19 clean-up through training, through all the training that we're
20 going through, and there's -- I think I'm the only one left. I
21 have to pick out some people from my community just to let them
22 know that there's at least some interest in there, some
23 different things that certain residential people will be
24 interested in. You know, just by saying that, you know, this
25 is something that they might want to, you know, look into for

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1 maybe a future job or employment.

2 And although we have the actual response team formed, —
3 there is no -- no members involved in accepting any more
4 training opportunities, so I usually have to step in and take
5 the responsibility of trying to back up my community as the
6 team commander for Kaktovik emergency response on oil -- oil
7 spill. Right now, I am working with two guides that are hired
8 on a temporary basis, I think, with Arco; I'm not sure I
9 understand if the scope of that service is permanent. I'm just
10 saying this because we're doing it off and on now.

11 We went through a -- one-time, first-time training
12 simulation to where we go and simulate evacuation to where --
13 like in the wintertime, if you're working on a concrete island
14 drilling structure, we -- we have the capabilities of
15 evacuating your people that work on oil rigs. But there is no
16 people from the community that are interested, and you know, I
17 think what the biggest problem we have here is support, letting
18 the representa- -- our representatives, ASRC, know that we need
19 those -- those kind of supports out here in the village, the
20 village level.

21 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Okay. That's an interesting
22 point. I -- thank you.

23 MR. SOPLU: You're welcome.

24 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: While you're there, Herman,
25 you're the next on the list.

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PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF HERMAN AISHANA

1 Yeah. My name is Herman Aishana. I live in Kaktovik;
2
3 I've been living here since 1958, and I raised a family over
4 here. Presently I'm the Mayor of City of Kaktovik, and I think
5 I'll be representing the City of Kaktovik.

6 Lease Sale 124 is a big sale as I understand it. It
7 extends out 200 miles -- is that right?

8 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: No, it.....

9 (Off record)

10 (Tape Change - Tape No. 2)

11 (On record)

12 HEARING OFFICER BROCK:it -- off Barrow, it goes
13 as far as 140, but as you can tell at this line right here, it
14 averages between 60 and 70 from the shoreline.

15 MR. AISHANA: Okay.

16 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: But there's 22 million acres
17 in there, so it is a large -- but it's basically the same area
18 that was in Sale 97 in 1988, basically the same area. It's
19 basically the same area as this except the area that was --
20 this covers the areas that were not leased in that sale.

21 MR. AISHANA: Okay. Knowing that you'll be using the
22 floating drill ships, I'm pretty leery about the safety of this
23 program. You're going out in some deep waters. But I would
24 like to see in place before the lease sale is held an oil spill
25 contingency plan in place and also oil spill clean-up equipment

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1 in place in each drilling -- drilling ship if that's at all
2 possible.

3 I know my people has -- don't like the idea of you
4 guys going out there in the ocean quite a ways out. I'd rather
5 prefer that water be opened than OCS; everybody is, which would
6 be a lot safer, but that's for the Congress to say, I guess, in
7 the future.

8 I figure no matter what I say, if I tell you not to
9 drill out there, you'll go ahead and drill anyway, so -- but I
10 been testifying over a few number of years, and ever since they
11 started having these public hearings, I started pointing out
12 everything I don't want; still they do it anyway. But for
13 safety matters in case of an oil spill, a massive one or a
14 little one, I think the oil industry should have a plan in
15 place in Arctic drilling, especially out -- quite a ways out
16 where it's quite deep, not using gravel islands or these -- the
17 ships that are -- the ships they use in the fairly shallow --
18 shallow areas. The people are reluctant to have drill ships,
19 floating drill ships, drilling out there and especially in the
20 wintertime.

21 So my main concern, for me, is the drill -- I mean the
22 oil spill contingency plan should be in place and also a
23 clean-up equipment and crew in place. That's about all I ask
24 for. I can't -- I know my subsistence is jeopardized by your
25 proposal, which is -- would be devastating if something

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1 happens, like a major oil spill they had down in Prince William
2 Sound. There's all kinds of animals out there which we live
3 on, and I presume that the federal government will do their
4 best not to harm the resources, animal resources, out there.

5 And that's about all I have. My main concern was the
6 oil spill contingency plan in place approved by the Congress
7 and some -- and oil industry using it. That -- that would make
8 me a little -- feel a little better.

9 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: A little better. Okay.

10 MR. AISHANA: Thank you very much.

11 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Well, thank you, sir, for
12 coming. And next we have Robert Thompson, if I could get you
13 gentlemen to move so Robert Thompson could get in next to the
14 mike.

15 (Pause - Whispered comments)

16 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Okay, sir.

17 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF ROBERT THOMPSON

18 Okay. My name is Robert Thompson. I'm opposed to any
19 offshore development until such time that industry can
20 demonstrate that they have the ability to -- to clean up a
21 mishap. As we're all aware, in the oil spill at Valdez,
22 industry was not able to -- to clean up the spill; the
23 potential for even larger spills exists, and industry will be
24 working in an environment that is more severe than at Valdez.
25 And in Valdez, as I understand it, the industry was allowed to

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1 stop clean-up in September I believe, and conditions at the --
2 at the best of times in the middle of the summer can be more
3 severe than what there were at Valdez.

4 Also, in regards to the Valdez situation, there was a
5 lot of publicity about the clean-up of beaches. I hadn't heard
6 of any -- any -- anybody saying that they could clean up
7 water -- or oil that gets into the water. There was --
8 there -- it -- in the Valdez spill, I don't know of any -- any
9 oil that was cleaned up in the open ocean.

10 Also, I've read part of the Beaufort Sea Planning Area
11 Oil Lease Sale 124, and I don't believe a lot of this is based
12 upon factual data. Theories about oil movement under the ice,
13 I don't know if it's based upon any actual situations. There
14 seems to be a lot of theory; the theory seems to accommodate
15 the purpose the oil companies have of trying to make it sound
16 like they can do it without any problems. I don't believe that
17 some of the data in this has been researched, such as the --
18 the level at which the oil will flow through the water. For
19 some species, the documentation says that they won't be
20 affected because the oil won't -- the spilled oil won't travel
21 at those depths that those particular animals have for a
22 habitat. But I believe the oil will travel at all different
23 depths, and until such time that there's more research on -- on
24 the oil behavior, I don't believe that this exploration should
25 continue.

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1 Also, it doesn't cover -- you know, it's not really
2 into this oil sale, but the -- the method that industry will
3 use to get the oil from where it's found to the shore, and you
4 know, that -- that wasn't covered. And also this -- this is, I
5 believe, a federal sale, and it will have to be crossing
6 state -- state waters, and that hasn't been addressed. The
7 State's held that it's -- some of the previous sales that they
8 had, that that data had to be provided, and I haven't seen
9 that. Of course, I haven't got -- had much chance to look at
10 this.

11 The other objection that I have about this -- this
12 hearing is the time wasn't published, and I just got off work,
13 so I missed most of the hearing. I question the legality of a
14 hearing at such a time when many, many people will miss it
15 because of work. If the time had been posted, maybe people
16 could make their plans accordingly, but it -- I don't -- it
17 wasn't, to my knowledge.

18 I -- I haven't had a chance to really study this
19 thoroughly 'cause I just got a copy of it yesterday, but the
20 things that I did study, it seemed to not be based upon any
21 actual factual data -- more theory than knowledge. Also, I
22 don't believe that there's been many studies on the effects
23 that oil -- the effects of oil pollution in colder waters, the
24 long-term effects, the -- the effects that they have on
25 whales. It was mentioned that in theory, the oil -- the whales

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1 would be able to avoid oil contaminated areas. I don't know
2 how the whales will know where -- what areas are contaminated
3 and what areas are not, but somehow, the study presumed that
4 the whales would be able to know and wouldn't be affected.

5 The -- the theory about the effects of the oil on the
6 baleen, it -- the study admitted, weren't conclusive, but there
7 is a theory that the oiled baleen could separate from the
8 whale's mouth and -- and be ingested and -- and could cause
9 fatalities in whale. This -- this, if it is a theory that it
10 could happen, I don't know how it could be studied, but that
11 alone should be considered as a reason not to have the sale.

12 The -- the ocean currents, I believe, are parallel to
13 the -- to the coast and along the same -- the same routes that
14 the whales travel. So they -- the whales would have to be in
15 the oil-contaminated area for a -- for four or five hundred --
16 or the whole length of the Arctic coast. And the studies
17 apparently presume that it would be just a very casual
18 confrontation with the oil. I -- I also am not sure just how
19 accurately the ocean currents have been studied. I believe
20 they should be thoroughly studied and so that all people will
21 be able to know just how they -- they will be affected.
22 These -- these currents, oh, I've heard that oil from the Exxon
23 Valdez will possibly be into the Arctic waters, so the
24 potential for the spills are much greater than this area that
25 is in the lease sale; it's -- you know, it could affect even

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1 other countries.

2 I don't -- I don't believe enough study has been done
3 to -- and industry has been able to establish that they have
4 the ability to -- to handle any mishaps; therefore, I don't
5 believe the industry can proceed on this sale. That's my.....

6 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Okay. Thank you.

7 MR. THOMPSON:testimony.

8 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Just to be sure that you know
9 that you -- that the written comment period does not close
10 until May the 8th, so you -- there's plenty of time to get any
11 additional comments you might have on this if you want to
12 submit written comments.

13 MR. THOMPSON: Yes.

14 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: And I'm sorry about the time,
15 but we did arrange it through the Mayor's Office and this was
16 the best time. The openings later in the evening weren't
17 there, so this was the best time that -- for the -- that we
18 could -- between us and the Mayor's Office could figure out for
19 the hearing. We didn't intentionally do it in the afternoon so
20 nobody would come. It was just the only time that was really
21 open.

22 (Whispered comments)

23 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: We have one more testifier,
24 Edward Rexford. Now, I don't want to rush anybody, but we do
25 have to be out of here in about the next 18 minutes. So I --

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1 just so that -- that's what they told us. Sir, go ahead.

2 PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF EDWARD REXFORD

3 Hi. My name is Eddie Rexford, and I've lived here al.
4 my life. I've been raised on and taught how to hunt and
5 subsist off the land and the sea. And during my hunting and
6 survival lessons that I was taught, I was also taught on how to
7 care and to respect the land and sea that we hunt from.

8 (Telephone interruption)

9 I'd like to go on the record that I also oppose Lease
10 Sale 124 since these are our important subsistence hunting and
11 fishing areas and that any oil spills or blow-outs would
12 jeopardize our community's subsistence needs, also other
13 communities' subsistence needs also. I'd also like to see my
14 children enjoy and to hunt from the land and sea the way I've
15 been taught to do.

16 That's all I've got to say, and again, I oppose Lease
17 Sale 124. Thanks.

18 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Thank you.

19 MR. SCHINDLER: Thank you, Eddie.

20 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: That's all we have signed up.
21 Do we have anybody else that didn't sign up that would like to
22 testify?

23 (No response)

24 HEARING OFFICER BROCK: Hearing none, we will close
25 the record then, and thank you all for coming.

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1 (Off record)

2 (Whereupon, the proceedings in the above-entitled
3 matter were adjourned at 7:00 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

Cindy S. Carl
Cindy S. Carl, CCR

5/2/90
Date

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